

Serial No. 10/802,876

REMARKS

Claim 11 has been amended better to point out that which applicants regard as their invention. More particularly, claim 11 now specifies that the support section includes a pair of support arms in substantially parallel alignment. The Examiner is directed to Figs. 10 to 12, and 19(A) to 19(C), and the discussion in the specification bridging pages 15 and 16, for support. The claims before the Examiner remain claims 11 and 12.

The Examiner's comment regarding the priority claim is noted. Applicants point out that no certified copy of the Japanese application filed May 23, 2001 was filed because no claim for priority was made for that case.

The rejection of claims 11 and 12 for alleged non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over claim 7 of U.S. Patent 6,736,290 in view of Lane '258 is respectfully traversed. The instant application is assigned to Hosokawa Yoko Company, Limited and Kabushiki Kaisha Polymer Systems, while the '290 patent is assigned to Hosokawa Yoko Company, Limited. There is no common ownership because the owners are different. See MPEP 706.02(1)(2). The rejection should be withdrawn.

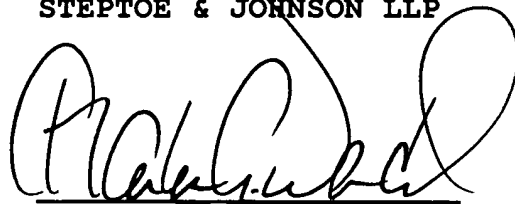
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The rejection of claims 11 and 12 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by Lane '258, if applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed. As indicated above, claim 11 has been amended to specify that the support section includes a pair of support arms in substantially parallel alignment. The device shown in Lane '258 clearly has no such arrangement, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing revisions and remarks it is respectfully submitted that the application is in immediate condition for allowance, and a USPTO paper to those ends is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the case prior to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Charles A. Wendel, is written over the printed name and registration number.

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